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# McFarlane named national security adviser

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Washington — President Reagan, ignoring conservative opposition and moving to establish policy continuity while avoiding personality conflict, appointed Robert C. McFarlane yesterday to be his national security adviser.

Mr. McFarlane, a low-profile operator, was deputy to the man he replaces, William P. Clark, who was nominated last week to be James G. Watt's successor at the Interior Department.

"Working closely with me, he will provide the leadership and spirit of teamwork we value in this administration," said Mr. Reagan, noting Mr. McFarlane's background as a decorated Marine, scholar, adviser to three presidents, congressional staffer, and counselor at the State Department.

Mr. McFarlane, 46, who most recently has been the administration's special emissary to the Middle East, stated his own commitment to the form of cabinet government preferred in the Reagan White House.

Asked whether his appointment would mean a shift of foreign policy-making back to the State Department, he said: "If the point of your question is — do I intend to seek to promote a personal point of view, or in any way to establish some confrontational status with the secretary of state? — of course not."

Relations between Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Mr. Clark, a close friend of Mr. Reagan, had become increasingly strained over Mr. Clark's independent conduct of foreign affairs.

Mr. McFarlane said that he did not anticipate any problems with Mr. Shultz, or the other main administration players in national security, Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, Central Intelligence Agency director William J. Casey, or U.N. Ambassador Jeane J. Kirkpatrick.

Press reports have suggested that

Mr. Weinberger and Mr. Casey were concerned that their viewpoints might not be put as forcefully to the president by Mr. McFarlane as they were by Mr. Clark, a conservative hardliner.

Mr. McFarlane acknowledged that he might have "disagreements" with other top officials, but contended that his role would be as an "administrator," not an "advocate." His job, he said, would be "to see all the options are there," to ensure that decisions were properly implemented, and to oversee the national security community.

Asked if he would enjoy the same access as Mr. Clark to Mr. Reagan, he said: "The importance of that access is clearly understood. The continuity of that access was reaffirmed [by Mr. Reagan] today. I have no reservations about it."

Conservatives have questioned whether Mr. McFarlane will be as influential as Mr. Clark inside the White House, and favored Mrs. Kirkpatrick, an outspoken advocate of tough diplomacy, for the post.

Mr. Reagan said yesterday that Mrs. Kirkpatrick would remain at the United Nations, where she "has done as magnificent a job as anyone who has ever held that post."

"As far as I know, she is happy," said Mr. Reagan, responding to reports that the ambassador was tired

of commuting between Washington and New York and wanted a job in the capital.

[But the Associated Press reported that Mrs. Kirkpatrick was making no promises to stay beyond this year.

"I am committed to remaining at the United Nations through the 38th session of the General Assembly," Mrs. Kirkpatrick said in a statement issued by her spokesman, Joel Blocker.

[She had no words of congratulation for Mr. McFarlane, the wire service reported. Her statement said "the president has the right to appoint anyone to any position in the administration and, as always, I support the president's decision."]

Mr. McFarlane's appointment was quickly endorsed by two key Senate Republicans. Senator Charles H. Percy (R., Ill.), chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, said Mr. McFarlane was "an able and effective adviser who has the confidence of the president."

The appointment brought prompt criticism from the labor-backed Council on Hemispheric Affairs, a constant opponent of administration policy in Central America.

It said that Mr. McFarlane's record "hardly suggests that Latin America can expect a modification of current Reagan administration policy — seeking military solutions in Central America."